

Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

SEVERE WEATHER April 28 2008

SITUATION REPORT # 1

2100 Hours April 28, 2008

The next Situation Report will be April 29 2008 at 0730 hours.

SUMMARY

In the afternoon hours of April 28 a storm system moving across the Commonwealth generated storm activity. These storms produced rain, wind and reported tornadoes. National Weather Service will conduct inspections during the day April 29, 2008 to make this determination. The Virginia Emergency Operations Center is receiving reports of storm related damage from across the Commonwealth. Preliminary damage reports have been received from several jurisdictions and state agencies. **Multiple injuries have been reported but no storm related deaths have been confirmed.**

EXECUTIVE ACTION

EOC Activation: The Virginia VEOC is at Response Operations with augmented staffing.

State of Emergency: *At 1855 28 April Gov. Kaine declared a state of emergency for the severe weather that impacted the Commonwealth.*

Federal Declaration: No declaration has been requested at this time.

Protective Actions: Local Emergency Declared:
City of Suffolk declared a local emergency at 1625 28 April.
Colonial Heights declared a local emergency at 1555 28 April.

Local Emergency Operations Center Activated:
City of Norfolk opened their EOC 28 April at 1650 Hours to support the City of Suffolk. City of Norfolk closed the EOC at 1918 hours because the City of Suffolk regained control of communication resources.

ESF 15 – External Affairs: *Fielding local, national and international media inquires.*

WEATHER

Forecast: **Tonight:** Showers and a possible thunderstorm in the morning and afternoon hours, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms in the evening. Some of the storms could be severe. Low around 51. West wind between 7 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible with thunderstorms. **Tuesday Morning:** A slight chance of showers in the morning. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 66. Northwest wind between 7 and 14 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%. **Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.

OPERATIONS SECTION

Local Liaison: Regional Coordinators and Hazardous Materials Officers are responding to impacted localities as needed.

EMERGENCY SERVICES BRANCH

ESF 8 – Public Health and Medical Services: Virginia Health Department (VHD)
VDH Western Tidewater Health District and local Red Cross activated to open shelters. Both Peninsula and Southside MMRS strike teams activated. Maryview Medical Center receiving patients to augment surge.

ESF 13 – Public Safety and Security:

Virginia State Police (VSP)

VSP closing several roads to assist with mission in City of Suffolk. Southbound 664 to Westbound 58, 64 East to Westbound 58 and 58 West at Wilroy Avenue. Everything West of Wilroy Avenue is shut down. All traffic at Wilroy is being turned around at that point.

ESF 17 – Volunteers and Donations:

American Red Cross (ARC)

ARC to start providing meals to individuals at the Kings Fork High School Shelter in Suffolk 29 April. Hooked up with Mercy Chef and have the capability to serve 500 meals within the first 24 hours and a larger mobile capacity for 1,500.

INFRASTRUCTURE BRANCH

ESF 1 – Transportation:

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

VDOT crews removed debris from I-95 North/South in Colonial Heights as a result of the severe weather on 28 April. No lanes were closed; however traffic was backed up at least two miles in each direction near Exit 53. Exit 53 northbound in Colonial Heights was closed to traffic so that emergency services could set up a triage site for the injuries suffered at Southpark Mall. US Route 58 is closed in both directions due to accidents and storm damage. Motorists are advised to consider other routes and exercise caution.

ESF 12 – Energy:

As of 2030 hours 28 April Dominion Virginia Power reported 9,732 customers without power. The majority of impacted customers were located in the Gloucester/Northern Neck and Southeastern Virginia area.

LOGISTICS SECTION

ESF 7 – Resource Support:

One request for assistance being processed at this time.

PLANNING SECTION

ESF 5 – Emergency Management:

Preparing Situation Reports, drafting Governor's Executive Order, monitoring WebEOC entries and maintaining situational awareness.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

City of Norfolk:

Norfolk relayed City of Suffolk information due to a total loss of communication.

City of Suffolk:

Sentara Obici Hospital damaged but still functional and receiving patients. Approximately 200 injuries have been reported. Hazardous Materials Officer Ray Haring and Regional Coordinator Wallace Twigg are on scene. One shelter open at Kings Fork High School. Ten unsafe structures in the Driver Community. Some sewer pumps are down, but all drinking water is okay. Route 58 is blocked at Route 10.

City of Virginia Beach:

Sent four medic units to City of Suffolk. Staging at the Lakeland High School located at 214 Kenyon Road in Suffolk.

City of Hampton:

Sent five Medic units to Suffolk Fire Station 5 at 3900 block of Ridge Road in Suffolk. MMRS Strike Team members from Hampton Fire and Hampton Police were activated and are also enroute to Suffolk at this time.

York County:

The Hampton Roads Metropolitan Medical Strike Team was requested by the City of Suffolk to assist with storm and possible tornado related medical needs. This response includes the activation of both the Southside Logistics Cache (City of Norfolk) and the Peninsula Logistics Cache (York County) and the Peninsula

Communications Cache (York County). All units are enroute to the staging area at Lakeland High School in Suffolk.

- City of Chesapeake:*** ***Sent 5 engines, one ladder truck, one tactical rescue vehicle, a Battalion Chief, three Medic units and an EMS officer to the City of Suffolk. Emergency Management Staff stood down at 1957 hours 28 April.***
- City of Colonial Heights:*** ***Major damage reported in and around the Southpark Mall area. Multiple buildings reported damaged. Building Inspectors and Structural Engineers on scene. Law Enforcement dealing with major traffic congestion in the Southpark area. Communication interoperability has been obtained between on-scene resources.***
- Henrico County:*** ***Henrico Tech Rescue Team on standby for City of Colonial Heights.***
- Isle of Wight County:*** ***Severe weather caused minor damage to homes and trees in the area. A preliminary damage assessment completed at 1925 hours 28 April indicates that twelve homes have incurred roof damage at an approximate total damage cost of \$125K to \$150K. Dominion Power reports that 200 customers in Carrsville and the surrounding area are without power. A shelter is not needed at this time. Emergency Management is continuing to monitor the situation and will update as events unfold.***
- Halifax County:*** ***Severe weather caused major damage to two homes, minor damage to one home and three homes were affected. All homes were insured. Four sheds were observed to have major damage or be destroyed. The estimated damage to private property is \$500,000. No damage to public facilities and no roads were closed or damaged. No reported injuries or fatalities. No shelters necessary. Dominion Virginia Power is on scene and reported 55 customers without power, but all power will be restored tonight.***

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